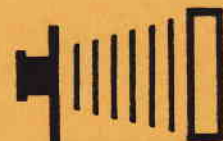


# THE BELLOWS



10TH. ANNIVERSARY YEAR

FEB. 1989

PUGET SOUND PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTOR'S SOCIETY INC. Vol. XI No.2

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING
WHERE	AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 808 9TH. SE , AUBURN, WASHINGTON
WHEN	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH. , 1989 7:30 PM
WHY	ROBERT ROTOLONI, FROM CHICAGO AREA AND AUTHOR OF "THE NIKON RANGEFINDER" WILL DROP IN AND TALK A LITTLE "NIKON" TO US.
WHO	THE SPOTLIGHT WILL BE ON LEE SCHEELER.

## WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS, LOU ANN AND RICKY DUNN AND DOUG THOMPSON.

## FINAL NOTICE

THE 1989 DUES IS TRICKLING IN BUT WE WOULD SINCERELY APPRECIATE A LITTLE BETTER RESPONSE. THANK YOU.

## LIKE HOTCAKES

THERE ARE LESS THAN 40 TABLES LEFT FOR THE 1989 SHOW--WE WOULD HATE TO LEAVE ANY OF OUR MEMBERS OUT. PLEASE GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN.

## FULL SUPPORT

THE CLUB IS MAKING AN EFFORT TO HELP PROMOTE ALL OTHER NON PROFIT COLLECTOR CLUBS BY CIRCULATING THEIR ADVERTISING. SEND US YOUR FLYERS.

## WANTED

- No. 1 REFLEX HOUSINGS SIMILAR TO LEITZ VISOFLEX FOR USE WITH LONG LENSES OR BELLOWS ON ZEISS CONTAX, VOIGHTLANDER PROMINENT, MIRANDA "MIRAX", CANON AND NIKON RANGEFINDER MODELS, PLUS THOSE MADE BY KILFIT AND NOVOFLEX FOR THE VARIOUS RANGEFINDER MODELS.  
DICK WEBER BOX #8 PORT ORCHARD, WA. 98366 871-0794
- No. 2 FOCUSING SCREEN FOR EXACTA--WARD HATHAWAY, 848-3917
- No. 3 8X10 STUDIO BACK, ADAPTABLE TO AGFA CAMERA. BOB PETERS, 848-3422

1989 SHOW CHAIRMAN: GARY SIVERTSEN, (206)-564-3782

## Camera Restoration for the Amateur

### Lloyd Phillips

Antique camera collectors can be compared to classic car collectors: the valuation of their items of love can be increased by the use of "elbow grease" and tender loving care. Restoration for the camera collector can be done quite inexpensively by using household and art supplies.

The work of renewing the appearance of a camera can be divided basically into two parts: cleaning and refinishing.

Leather work that has become grimy and discolored can be cleaned with a number of different products. I prefer Lincoln *E-Z Cleaner for Suede*. It is a surface cleaner that evaporates quickly and does not soften the leather. Another excellent cleaner is called *Lexol*, but it is a penetrating cleaner and takes a while to dry. Because of this, it should not be used on leather bellows which could lose shape and become baggy. It can be used with the new plastic bellows material. These cleaners should be applied with a damp sponge, wiped off immediately and allowed to dry overnight. These two cleaners are available from Oregon Leather Co. in Portland and usually at local shoe repair shops.

After the leather is clean and dry, it should be coated with Kiwi *Scuff Magic* which is a combination dye and wax available in black or brown. The black in *Scuff Magic* is truer in color to the original black camera leather than most dyes which tend toward a violet-black and do not look normal. The finish can then be allowed to dry a day before buffing. To protect this finish, use *Armor All* available in all automotive supply houses. Avoid using it on leather that is badly scuffed or deteriorating.

Many old cameras such as Speed Graphics have been exposed to dampness over the years. This has caused the brass screws and rivets under the leather to corrode, producing little mounds of copper sulfate and making the surface quite rough and bumpy. To remove these bumps is somewhat of a chore. The leather must be peeled back, a half portion at a time using a razor knife. The underside on both the leather and body must then be cleaned of all copper sulfate and dried shellac (adhesive) by scraping and sanding. Use shellac to cover the screwheads to prevent continued corrosion. Replace the leather using woodworker's quick-setting glue and put under pressure if possible.

Replacing old leather is a problem because it is almost impossible to find matching or authentic-looking material. Oregon Leather has about the best stock in the area. When replacing the leather, try to save the old portion as a pattern. Again woodworker's glue is the best present day adhesive.

For body surfaces painted black use automotive or model railroad flat black. They will vary in shades so test first.

The dirt on metal surfaces can be cleaned with kitchen cleaners such as *Fantastic* or *409* using *Q-Tips* and then drying with a clean cloth. For movable and sliding parts it is best to disassemble and wash in a bath of the kitchen cleaner using a toothbrush. Be careful of metal surfaces that have been painted or varnished as the cleaners will cause the coating to deteriorate. Use milder solutions for these, such as dishwasher detergent diluted with water. On varnish use oil-based cleaner or furniture polish only.

Do not use a grease on sliding tracks which will only gum up in time and also attract dirt. Use a dry lubricant such as *WD-40* or *Molykote-type Z* (molybdenum bisulfide) available from specialty hardware suppliers.



There are many types of modern finishes that can be used on natural wood surfaces. The most authentic of course is shellac. The wood surface to be refinished should first be scraped and then sanded with fine sandpaper. To use shellac, first thin well with alcohol and use as a wash as many times as needed to build up a solid base, rubbing between each coat with fine steel wool. With fresh shellac the waiting period between each coat should be 15-20 minutes (longer for older material). When buying shellac, note the date on the can. Shelf life is about 6-9 months. After that it becomes gummy. The final coat should be applied full strength as it comes from the can. A superior finish can be had by rubbing with rottenstone and mineral oil although the original probably never had that much tender, loving care.

The incised lettering on the lens barrel can be made to look new again by using an oil pastel stick available from art supply stores for about \$0.39 to \$1. White is the usual color, but black and red are also available. Cut a point back to the fresh material in the stick and wipe into the letters. Clean the excess around the outside with a clean, dry cloth. The paint will dry hard in time.

Clean your lenses with your favorite lens cleaner and a soft cotton cloth. Old lenses clean well with Johnson's *Klean 'n Shine* available from grocery stores. Spray a little of the foam on a soft rag and apply to the glass. Uncoated lenses sparkle. Great for eyeglasses also.

A note about *Armor All*. It is an excellent product that should be used on all camera equipment from tripods to camera cases. It protects especially well the new plastic bodied cameras which become oily and grimy from frequent handling. Again spray on a soft cloth, then apply.

Good luck!

#### **CREDIT LINE:**

THE ABOVE ARTICLE WAS REPRINTED FROM THE **CASCADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS LETTER**, WITH THE EXPRESSED PERMISSION OF THE WRITER AND THE EDITOR. THANKS TO BOTH.